

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A digital camera that forms, on a solid state imaging device, an object image resulting from object light transmitted via a photographing optical system, to obtain image data representative of the object image, the digital camera comprising:

a mode switching section that obtains and temporarily stores freeze image data representative of a composition in response to a composition determining operation and switches to an arbitrary one of a plurality of photographing modes in response to an actual photographing operation, the photographing modes including a photographing memory mode in which image data on a desired object is obtained;

an image display section that displays an image based on the image data;

a distance measuring section that measures a distance to the object; and

a focusing section that performs focusing in accordance with the distance measured by the distance measuring section, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, after the composition determining operation has been finished and before the actual photographing operation is started, the image display section displays, in a superimposing manner, a composition based on the freeze image data obtained as a result of the composition determining operation and a through image based on

through image data representative of the object image currently formed on the solid state imaging device, and

in the photographing memory mode, the focusing section causes the distance measuring section to measure the distance when the composition determining operation is performed, and during the actual photographing operation, performs focusing in accordance with the distance measured when the composition determining operation is performed, wherein

the freeze image data that is temporarily stored is obtained using the solid state imaging device operating in a distinct camera operation mode.

2. (Currently amended) A digital camera that forms, on a solid state imaging device, an object image resulting from object light transmitted via a photographing optical system, to obtain image data representative of the object image, the digital camera comprising:

a mode switching section that obtains and temporarily stores freeze image data representative of a composition in response to a composition determining operation and switches to an arbitrary one of a plurality of photographing modes in response to an actual photographing operation, the photographing modes including a photographing memory mode in which image data on a desired object is obtained;

an image display section that displays an image based on the image data;

a luminance measuring section that measures a luminance of the object; and

an exposure adjusting section that adjusts exposure in accordance with the luminance measured by the luminance measuring section, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, after the composition determining operation has been finished and before the actual photographing operation is started, the image display section displays, in a superimposing manner, a composition based on the freeze image data obtained as a result of the composition determining operation and a through image based on through image data representative of the object image currently formed on the solid state imaging device, and

in the photographing memory mode, the exposure adjusting section causes the luminance measuring section to measure the luminance when the composition determining operation is performed, and during the actual photographing operation, adjusts the exposure in accordance with the luminance measured when the composition determining operation is performed, wherein the freeze image data that is temporarily stored is obtained using the solid state imaging device operating in a distinct camera operation mode.

3. (Currently amended) A digital camera that forms, on a solid state imaging device, an object image resulting from object light transmitted via a photographing optical system, to obtain image data representative of the object image, the digital camera comprising:

a mode switching section that obtains and temporarily stores freeze image data representative of a composition in response to a composition determining operation and switches to an arbitrary one of a plurality of photographing modes in response to an actual photographing operation, the photographing modes including a photographing memory mode in which image data on a desired object is obtained;

an image display section that displays an image based on the image data;

a distance measuring section that measures a distance to the object;

a focusing section that performs focusing in accordance with the distance measured by the distance measuring section;

a luminance measuring section that measures a luminance of an object; and

an exposure adjusting section that adjusts exposure in accordance with the luminance measured by the luminance measuring section, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, after the composition determining operation has been finished and before the actual photographing operation is started, the image display section displays, in a superimposing manner, a composition based on the freeze image data obtained as a result of the composition determining operation and a through image based on through image data representative of the object image currently formed on the solid state imaging device,

in the photographing memory mode, the focusing section causes the distance measuring section to measure the distance when the composition determining operation is performed, and during the actual photographing operation, performs focusing in accordance with the distance measured when the composition determining operation is performed, and

in the photographing memory mode, the exposure adjusting section causes the luminance measuring section to measure the luminance when the composition determining operation is performed, and during the actual photographing operation, adjusts the exposure in accordance with the luminance measured when the composition determining operation is performed, wherein

the freeze image data that is temporarily stored is obtained using the solid state imaging device operating in a distinct camera operation mode.

4. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising a shutter release button operated both during the composition determining operation and during the actual photographing operation and operated at two levels including a halfway press and a full press, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, the focusing section causes the distance measuring section to measure the distance in response to a halfway press operation performed on the shutter release button during the composition determining operation.

5. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 3, further comprising a shutter release button operated both during the composition determining operation and during the actual photographing operation and operated at two levels including a halfway press and a full press, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, the focusing section causes the distance measuring section to measure the distance in response to a halfway press operation performed on the shutter release button during the composition determining operation.

6. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 2, further comprising a shutter release button operated both during the composition determining operation and during the actual

photographing operation and operated at two levels including a halfway press and a full press, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, the exposure adjusting section causes the luminance measuring section to measure the luminance in response to a halfway press operation performed on the shutter release button during the composition determining operation.

7. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 3, further comprising a shutter release button operated both during the composition determining operation and during the actual photographing operation and operated at two levels including a halfway press and a full press, and

wherein in the photographing memory mode, the exposure adjusting section causes the luminance measuring section to measure the luminance in response to a halfway press operation performed on the shutter release button during the composition determining operation.

8. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising a photographing completion notifying section that notifies a user of completion of photographing in response to the actual photographing operation.

9. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 2, further comprising a photographing completion notifying section that notifies a user of completion of photographing in response to the actual photographing operation.

10. (Original) The digital camera according to claim 3, further comprising a photographing completion notifying section that notifies a user of completion of photographing in response to the actual photographing operation.